

LAST EDITION.

WAITING FOR WORD TO GO.

Colombia's Representatives Are Packing Up Their Things

Preparatory to Abandoning the Legation at Washington.

KNOW HAY'S ANSWER.

Are Only Awaiting for Its Formal Presentation.

When They Will Sever Diplomatic Relations With Us.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Although Secretary Hay has not yet replied to the note of General Reyes, preparations are going on rapidly for the closing of the Colombian legation here and the departure of Colombia's representatives for home. It is clear that they do not entertain very much hope of a satisfactory response by this government. Already most of the legation files have been packed and arrangements completed for placing them in storage here. General Reyes for several days has denied himself to callers. It is believed that while the reply of Mr. Hay has not been made, sufficient information has been obtained by the Colombian representatives in the interviews they have had with the secretary to enable them to forecast its conclusions. The preparations going on for closing up the affairs of the legation would seem to indicate that General Reyes and Dr. Herrera are awaiting only as a matter of form and diplomatic courtesy, the official communication of Mr. Hay setting forth the reasons why this government cannot accept their view of the Panama situation before severing diplomatic relations with the United States.

MORE WARSHIPS FOR ISTHUS.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The fleets of warship on both sides of the isthmus of Panama will shortly be reinforced by several vessels now on their way to that quarter. The gunboat Topeka of the Atlantic training squadron left Key West yesterday for Colon by way of Kingston as convoy of the torpedo boat destroyers Truxton and Stewart which have been assigned to patrol duty on the Caribbean coast of the isthmus. The gunboat Castine arrived at Colon yesterday from Philadelphia none the worse for her recent grounding on a bar in the Delaware river. The big collier Cassin, torpedo boat destroyer Preble and Paul Jones, and the collier Saturn have been fitted out at San Francisco for service in the Pacific coast. The gunboat Petrel, bound for Panama, arrived at Acapulco, Mexico, on the 26th instant, and undoubtedly has left there by this time. The flagship New York, the gunboat Huntington, the collier USS, the destroyer Preble and Paul Jones, and the collier Saturn have been fitted out at San Francisco for service in the Pacific coast. The gunboat Petrel, bound for Panama, arrived at Acapulco, Mexico, on the 26th instant, and undoubtedly has left there by this time.

HE WANTS HANNA.

Heath Says McKinley Wished to Be Succeeded by Senator.

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 28.—Perry S. Heath declared today that he was the belief of President McKinley just before he met his death at Buffalo that Senator Hanna would be the next nominee of the Republican party in general. Mr. Heath, who is in Louisville spending Christmas with his wife, said: "I was in Washington at the White House just before the death of McKinley. I went to Buffalo. I had a long talk with him with reference to the next presidential election and the conduct of the Republican party in general. In the conversation Mr. McKinley, speaking of the man who was to succeed him, said: 'I expect to see my friend and associate, William H. Hanna, the next president of the United States. I believe he will be nominated and elected.'"

A PLAY IN CHURCH.

Written, Staged and Produced by the Pastor.

Baltimore, Dec. 28.—A play has been produced in the Trinity German Lutheran church here. It took the place of the usual Sunday night sermon. The play, written, staged and produced by the pastor in charge of the church, The loss of the drama, which was in German, was highly successful.

UNDER RUSH ORDERS.

Train Load of Army Supplies Reaches San Francisco.

San Francisco, Dec. 28.—Nearly a train load of army supplies, hospital tents and blankets, have arrived here under rush orders, having been expressed by the government from Omaha to the superintendent of the transport service in this city. The consignments had been carried on the fastest trains through the west and was immediately dispatched to San Francisco.

SUNDAY WAS WARM.

The Weather Is Somewhat Colder Today.

The forecast for Kansas went out today is "Generally fair and colder tonight and Tuesday."

The forecaster looks for a decided change in the temperature from that of Sunday when the mercury was up to 52 and the lowest was 33. Today the weather has been mild although the wind was from the west and was blowing 14 miles an hour. The hourly temperatures recorded by the government thermometer today were as follows:

5 o'clock	38 1/2	o'clock	43
8 o'clock	32 1/2	o'clock	45
9 o'clock	35 1/2	o'clock	45
10 o'clock	40	2 o'clock	49

Wind 20 miles from northwest.

M. L. FIELD DEAD.

Former Principal of Lincoln School Appendicitis Victim.

M. L. Field, for a year a member of the Shawnee county bar and for many years prior to that an instructor in the Topeka schools, died at 9 o'clock Sunday night at Christ hospital of peritonitis resulting from an attack of appendicitis. He underwent an operation Tuesday morning the members of the Shawnee county bar will meet at the district court room to attend resolutions and arrange for attendance at the funeral.



M. L. FIELD.
A victim of appendicitis.

Mr. Field was very well known in Topeka and was a man of exceptionally fine character. For many years he was principal of Lincoln school. Two years ago he commenced taking a little interest in politics and has since held a position on the Republican city central committee. A year ago he relinquished his position in the city schools to take up the practice of law for which he had been preparing during leisure hours for some years. He had considerable promise of a successful law practice.

When Mr. Field was 8 years of age he left his birthplace, Springfield, Ill., and came to Kansas. That was in 1868. His parents settled in Wellsville, and later moved to Paola. His education was secured at the normal school there, at Shortt college, Alton, Ill., and at Kansas university. He was a member of the graduating class of 1885. He taught in Mound City, Wellsville and Olivet college. In 1890 he married Miss Ella Hubbard of Lawrence. Three girls and a boy survive him, although two children are dead. The funeral will be held at 12:30 p. m. Tuesday, from the First Baptist church where he has been principal of the Sunday school for seven years. The body will be taken to Lawrence for burial.

NEW HIGH RECORD.

Cotton Passes 14 Cents for Futures on N. Y. Exchange.

New York, Dec. 28.—New high records prices were made amid the greatest excitement at the opening of the cotton exchange today. First prices were at an advance of 23 to 31 points. Before the call was fairly completed, March had sold at 14.01. May at 14.20 and July at 14.14. The advance followed the surprising strength at Liverpool, where prices were 17 to 20 points higher at the time of the local opening instead of a shade lower as expected with private cables ascribing gains to heavy buying. The early market was active and excited.

NOT BRYAN'S YEAR.

He Will Run Again but Not in 1904.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 28.—C. A. Walsh, secretary of the Democratic national committee, arrived here Sunday on business. When asked if Mr. Bryan would be a candidate for president this time, Mr. Walsh said: "Mr. Bryan will be president of the United States, but not this time. It would be suicidal for him to be a candidate next year. It would mean sure defeat. He is too bright a man not to know it. I would rather see William Jennings Bryan president than any other man in the world."

Mr. Walsh said he thought the next national convention would be held in Chicago.

Weather Indications.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Forecast for Kansas: Generally fair and cooler tonight and Tuesday; fresh northwest winds.

VOYAGE ON KAW.

City Railway Pile Driver Boat Is Here.

Made Trip from St. Marys in a Week.

IT CAME BY WATER.

Load Was Lightened When Rossville Was Reached.

Will Be Used to Construct Railway Bridge.

After a stormy passage down the Kaw, the Leavenworth Bridge company's battleship "Piledriver" cast anchor Sunday afternoon just below the Kansas avenue bridge, and was inspected by the quartermasters. She was given a clean bill of health, and the officers and crew came ashore at once. They tell some thrilling stories of the voyage from St. Marys. Chief Engineer Young was in charge of the vessel, with a crew of thirty men under him. The "Piledriver" left St. Marys a week ago today, December 21, under the most auspicious circumstances. It had just completed a job of bridge building which was a credit to its flag, and with full coal bunkers and all the machinery in perfect order, set out gaily for the run to Topeka, with bands playing and whistles shrieking their salutes as the sturdy craft sailed out through the dense shipping at St. Marys harbor.

What happened after that can best be told in the form of an interview with one of the crew. He said this morning:

"Oh, we had the — of a time, you bet. Where we made our mistake was in forgetting to put wheels under the old scow before we started. We hadn't got out of sight of St. Marys before the boat stuck her nose into a sandbar as big as the desert of Sahara. Well, we had half a mile to pull her out. Then we hatched up to the engine on the boat and wound up the cable, and dragged the boat through the sand across the bar. I'd be blamed if we didn't plow a ditch big enough for the Panama canal."

"That's the way it went for four days. Never was in such a fix in all my life, and I've been in the business for 30 years. We'd get up in the morning, work like thunder all day, and we'd camp at night in the same place we did the night before. Sometimes we would get in the current, and float for a mile or so, and get up an awful excitement among the people on the bank. They'd say, 'Look at that! That's the challenge for the American cup. We'd hear a tug and a swim, and we'd come up high and dry on a submerged sandbar.'"

"Last Friday we got to Rossville, and it was Christmas. The boss says, 'Boys, this business is getting tiresome. Here we are hung up like a sock waiting for Santa Claus, and here it is that we won't get to Topeka in time for the opening of the baseball season, unless we hurry. We'll have to get the scrap-iron and coal off this yacht and go down stream under light draft.' And we spent Christmas with the dear good people of Rossville, getting the boat loose from the engine. We took the boiler out, and the engine, and everything else except a few derrick timbers, and hired some more farmers to bring them to town. We took anything to carry the boat came down stream in pretty good shape, but the fellers that took the job of hauling the stuff to town through the sand got all that was coming to them."

"Thirty miles in seven days is not very fast traveling, but the 'Piledriver' does not claim to be in the Phil Sheridan class. But the boat is in fine shape and the engine is being replaced on it today. The thirty men in the work crew are nearly all in town, and will be set to work on Saturday morning. The boat will come down from St. Marys on the train. The navigation did not look good to them."

As soon as a 50-foot derrick can be constructed, the battleship "Piledriver" will commence the work of constructing a bridge for the Topeka City Railway company, just east of the Kansas avenue bridge. It will be a steel truss structure, and will be used as the false work for the permanent steel bridge to be built later on. The contracts call for the bridge to be finished by February 1, but the chances are that it will not be done then.

Frank G. Kelly of the City Railway company, who is in charge of the company, will pay no attention to the request of the city council to remove the remains of the old street car bridge at once, while the new bridge is being built. He says he will remove the remains of the old bridge, but not till then.

"We have no time to fool with those old piles now," said Mr. Kelly. "That is something which can wait. We are anxious now to push the work on the new bridge with all possible speed, and we are not going to let anything interfere with it. When we get our bridge built, we will remove the remains of our old bridge, but not till then."

It is likely that this attitude of the city railway may result in the city council taking the case to the state supreme court. The city engineer saw off the old piles which still stand in the stream, and let them float down stream. The councilmen seem to fear that if the old piles are allowed to remain where they are they will make trouble.

BIG WHISKY DEAL.

Cincinnati Concern Makes a 25,000 Barrel Purchase.

Cincinnati, O., Dec. 28.—A gigantic whisky deal involving the purchase by a Cincinnati concern of about 25,000 barrels of Kentucky bourbon, has just been completed by James Levy & Co., of Cincinnati, and the Kentucky Distillers and Warehouse company, which is a branch of the Distilling Company of America, the whisky trust.

The whisky is now in the T. P. Ripley building, near Lawrence, Ky., and the "low price," or actual price, paid for the goods is said to be over \$400,000. Before this whisky was put in government bonded form, it was paid, which amounts to about \$48 a barrel, making the deal involve about \$1,920,000 in government taxes alone. This makes the deal aggregate, when the whisky is finally all tax paid, something over \$1,000,000.

This is the largest deal in whisky ever consummated in this city. A portion of this whisky was a part of a lot of 40,000 barrels recently sold to the Kentucky Distillers and Warehouse company.

COPPER ON THE HEARSE.

Chicago Funerals Are Conducted Under Guard.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Because they had been detailed to ride in the guise of passengers in the funeral procession of a man who had been killed by a street car, a non-uniform crew, Policemen James Gibbons and George Oakley were attacked by union sympathizers last night and in a fight which followed both policemen were seriously injured. The trouble occurred at Twenty-second street and Archer avenue. Two of the rioters were arrested.

More hearsees were used by the undertakers yesterday in conducting funerals than at any time since the lively drivers went on a strike, but in every case a policeman rode on the seat with the driver.

TWO BURN TO DEATH.

Man and Ten Year Old Boy Lose Lives by Fire.

Crested Butte, Colo., Dec. 28.—Charles Ostrout, an eccentric character, aged about 55 years, and Joseph Beldier, a boy aged 10, living here, were burned to death by fire which started in the cabin of the regular habitation of Ostrout who cut timber for a coal mine. The little fellow, in company with his brother George, aged 12, was visiting Ostrout. The cabin caught fire from some unknown cause, only the older boy being able to escape. He caught a cold and died of pneumonia as he was so excited. The bodies of the two victims were almost entirely consumed.

BETTER MANAGEMENT NEEDED.

Rome, Dec. 28.—In order to systematize the vatican administration and prevent the many irregularities which had been found to exist under the late pope, Pius X has decided to enlist the services of a prominent layman at present at the head of the Banco d'Italia, who will, as an expert, be in a position to safeguard more carefully the patrimony of St. Peter.

DIXIE SAILS.

Carries 600 Marines and Supplies for Five Months.

Philadelphia, Dec. 28.—The auxiliary cruiser Dixie sailed from the League Island navy yard today en route for Colon, carrying 600 marines and five months' living and fighting supplies for 1,000 men. Six companies of marines divided into two battalions sailed on the Dixie.

Company A is composed of men from Boston; company B, Washington; company C, Annapolis; company D, Philadelphia; and companies E and F, Brooklyn.

MRS. SULLIVAN DEAD.

Author and Educational Writer Victim of Paralysis.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Alexander Sullivan, well known on both sides of the Atlantic as an author and editorial writer, died today after one week's illness, following a stroke of paralysis. Mrs. Sullivan, formerly Miss Margaret F. Buchanan, was 58 years of age. She was born in Ireland, but her family moved to Detroit, Mich., when she was an infant. She was a proficient Greek, Latin and French scholar. During Charles A. Dana's lifetime she was a frequent contributor to the New York Sun, and was an editorial writer on the Chicago Times in the time of William Storey. Up to the time of her last illness Mrs. Sullivan was an editorial writer on the Chicago Chronicle. In 1896 she suffered a stroke of paralysis from which she recovered completely but she was stricken again Sunday afternoon.

GOVERNOR AT OFFICE.

He Is Not Well But Attends to Business.

Governor Bailey is able to be up today and was brought down to the state house this morning. He spent two or three hours in his office, going over the correspondence which had accumulated during the last few days, and listening to the claims of rival candidates for appointment as sheriff of Barton county. The governor thinks he has checked the attack of pneumonia which threatened him, but he is quite weak, and his nerves are in such bad condition that he can scarcely sign his name, resulting from the attack of grip which he has been going through. He is not used to being ill, and it goes hard with him. He says he never called a doctor more than two or three times before in his life except once when he suffered from a broken leg.

The supreme judgeship matter was not taken up by the governor and no appointment will be made today. One is looked for by the middle of the week, however.

Judge Elric Cole, of Great Bend, called and presented W. R. Bunting, a resident of Barton county, as a candidate for sheriff of Barton county to succeed J. R. Johnson, who died some time ago. Wanting to see the governor at the same time, Mr. Cole, editor of the Great Bend Register, who is supporting Frank Millard for the appointment, told Governor Bailey that he was not in the mood to take any action on the matter.

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CZAR MUST YIELD.

Or Japan Will Take Steps to Safeguard Korea.

JOINT MEETING OF CABINET AND PRIVY COUNCIL TODAY.

PREPARES FOR WAR.

China Getting Ready to Take Part in the Trouble.

HER ACTION AROUSES SERIOUS ATTENTION IN RUSSIA.

IMMENSE ORDERS FOR SUPPLIES PLACED IN UNITED STATES.

Tokio, Dec. 28.—An important joint meeting of the cabinet and privy council will take place today to consider ways and means in view of the grave situation but no difficulty is anticipated in providing for the extraordinary expenditure, including the completion of the Seoul-Fu San railroad.

It is believed that unless Russia modifies her reply, Japan will immediately safeguard Korea, though such a step will not necessarily mean war with Russia.

CHINA'S WAR PREPARATIONS.

New York, Dec. 28.—The Russian government is noting with close attention and the keenest interest the quite uncommon energy now being shown by the Chinese in making warlike preparations under the guidance of a large number of Japanese instructors, cables from the St. Petersburg correspondent. This has grown so serious as to come into the first line of Russia's calculations, broadening out the situation on quite new lines.

Such a complication would bring into play the Franco-Russian and Anglo-Japanese treaties.

ENGLAND'S OPPORTUNITY.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28.—The consensus of unofficial opinion among those associated with the government but not responsible for it, is that the czar is so peacefully disposed that he will make such concessions to Japan as are necessary to prevent war, provided the concessions are made in the hands of the governments concerned. At the same time the czar, it is pointed out, agrees with those who believe that preparation for war is the best safeguard of peace, and that apparent willingness to allow matters to be submitted to the test of arms is more likely to lead to a satisfactory settlement than an exhibition of overmuch peacefulness.

This unofficial opinion, however, believes the controlling party in Russia regards Korea as necessary to the consolidation of Russian interests in the far east and therefore, is determined to prevent the peninsula falling to Japanese hands and that any concessions Russia now makes to Japan will only be with the object of deferring the difficulty until a more seasonable time.

There is not likely to be any difficulty in finding money in case of war. A foreign loan on acceptable terms is probably impossible, but the Russian banks and merchants have ample funds on which the government could draw. One reason why the British alarmist news fails to convince the Russians is the perfect understanding here of the benefits Great Britain derives from the continuance of the strained situation. It was known here a year ago that Great Britain was planning to occupy Korea and extend the railway to a point in the Yang Tse valley which is reached by gunboats from the sea.

Great Britain's forward movement at this time excites both admiration and distrust. The former is the clever political move, the latter because Russia is so preoccupied in the far east that she is unable to prevent the Japanese from occupying her own Manchuria in the Yang Tse provinces. It is pointed out here that the present situation affords Great Britain the same opportunity as that which was between Russia and any third power.

JAPAN AFTER WARSHIPS.

London, Dec. 28.—Japan is negotiating for the purchase of three Argentine warships Moreno and Rivadavia, now being built at Genoa, Italy, but up to this afternoon the Japanese legation had not heard of the completion of their purchase.

K. C. GETS AN ORDER.

1,500,000 Pounds of Meat for the Russian Army.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 28.—The Russian government has just placed an order with Armour & Co. for a million and a half pounds of mess meat for immediate shipment to San Francisco. The order calls for the delivery of the meat at San Francisco by January 22. The meat, it is said, is for the use of the Russian army, and its destination is said to be Port Arthur.

It appears that the order was received in this city last week and already one-third of the quantity of meat has been shipped. The order came through the San Francisco branch of the local packing house and is said to have been placed originally with San Francisco commission firms. The management of the packing house here was unable or unwilling to say whether future orders from the same source were expected, nor could they state the exact destination of the shipments. The order was for mess beef, or that class of meat capable of being kept for a long period.

RUSSIA BUYS WAR SUPPLIES.

Omaha Gets Rush Order for Million Pounds of Meat.

Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 28.—The Omaha Packing company of South Omaha is just receiving a rush order for one million pounds of extra mess meat for the Russian government. The shipment must be made by the Omaha packing company to San Francisco before January 22. On that date two Russian ships will be prepared to receive the meat. The packing company is said to be in Omaha that the same ships will also carry a large amount of other supplies which are now on their way or are in preparation for shipment from various ports in the United States. All the supplies, it is said, are for the war department of Russia.

CHILD KILLED BY KICK OF HORSE.

Arkansas City, Kan., Dec. 28.—The 5-year-old son of Ed Carline of Arkansas City was killed to death by the family horse. The horse kicked at a dog, the full force of the blow striking the boy's head, causing instant death.

ARE YOU A SOCIALIST?

These Were Tolstol's First Words to Bryan.

The Hague, Dec. 28.—William J. Bryan arrived here today from Berlin and visited the foreign minister.

Mr. Bryan is enjoying his tour. He said he found Count Tolstol looking well, though very aged. Tolstol's first question was: "Are you a socialist?"

When assured to the contrary, the count said: "I am very glad to hear it. I am not a socialist myself."

TALLEST ON EARTH.

Building Projected to 615 Feet in Height.

New York, Dec. 28.—Contracts will soon be let for the erection on lower Broadway of the tallest building on earth. With five stories below the street level, forty stories high from the sidewalk entrance to the top floor and surmounted by a sixty-foot tower, the gigantic new building, which will be known as the Broadway-Cortlandt, will have a total height of 615 feet, making it over twice as high as the Flatiron building of this city, the first again as the Park Row building, which now holds the record.

Plans for the construction of the Broadway-Cortlandt building were started almost a year ago, when a syndicate was formed with Henry C. Erik, the Pittsburgh steel magnate, and Bird S. Culer of this city as the principal movers. The land needed for the site was quickly secured through brokers during the spring and summer and the plans, with a frontage of 112 feet in Broadway, extends 100 feet down Dey street to the tall telephone building and 125 feet down Cortlandt street.

The building is estimated to cost when ready for occupancy about \$4,500,000. The plots on which the Broadway-Cortlandt will be built are now occupied by low, old-fashioned brick and wooden structures, erected years ago. As the new structure is to be completed early in November, 1904, the work of razing these buildings preparatory to excavating will be begun soon after New Year's day.

Instead of the heavy foundations for the support of the heavy foundations on which the immense building proper will rest, the new building will be founded on the stratum of bedrock which underlies the lower part of Manhattan island at a depth of about 9 feet. The massive masonry foundations, which will be further strengthened by the various rapid transit tunnels, will be 20 feet in depth and this will permit of five stories below the ground level.

The lowest of these floors will be occupied solely by the heating, lighting and elevator machinery for the whole structure. The next two floors will serve as storage rooms for tenants, while the fourth floor in part will be an underground station. The remaining floors will be used for offices and the rapid transit tunnels, which will be 20 feet in depth and this will permit of five stories below the ground level.

The double tunnel to Jersey City and the Brooklyn branch of the subway will meet in the arcade of the new building. This arcade will be occupied by elevator shafts and the underground floor has been leased exclusively for safe deposit purposes.

In the matter of decoration the tallest office building will be one of the handsomest structures in the city. White marble will be used for the main part of the street to the fifteenth floor, and the remainder of the building on all sides will be faced with white porcelain brick.

ALBERTS' CLOSE CALL.

Baseball Promoter Sustains 600 Volt Current.

Sunday afternoon while putting in a new dynamo in the disabled car at the north end of the bridge, August Alberts, an electrician and baseball promoter received 600 volts in his body. The man and his helper had neglected to turn off the roller of the wire and while working Mr. Alberts slipped and fell, striking the back of his head against a portion of the car thus making a complete circuit.

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MAC ARTHUR SILENT.

The General Refuses to Discuss His War Prediction.

San Francisco, Dec. 28.—General MacArthur returned yesterday from the Hawaiian Islands, where he had been making a military inspection. One of the general's first questions was for news concerning the Japan-Russian controversy and he remarked: "I have not been notified about the transports."

"Is it true, general, that your visit to the islands was cut short by the probability of war in Panama?"

The general considered the question a moment and said: "Well, I am here."

His attention was directed to the recent activity displayed in the transport service and he remarked: "I have not been notified about the transports."

General MacArthur declined to talk about the interview in which he is asserted to have predicted war between Germany and the United States.

N'ROBERTS GOT IT.

Hoch Boomer Who Forgot His Warrant.

One of the Hoch boomers in Jewell county, Kansas, who had announced that he would not be a candidate for governor—was J. W. McRoberts, former probate judge of the county. Mr. McRoberts circulated a warrant asking Mr. Hoch to run for governor.

On page 225 of the journal of the last house of representatives appears the record of a warrant for J. W. McRoberts, assistant document clerk in the house. He was one of the numerous employees of the house because of whom those who were booming Hoch abused Governor Bailey.

Mr. McRoberts, however, says he did not take the place. Instead he simply sent his son to fill it for him. This does not show on the records, however. The warrant register in the state auditor's office is recited "J. W. McRoberts" on January 1, 1903. It seems that Mr. McRoberts went home before the close of the session and therefore did not get his warrant filled. The state auditor says that the warrant register was checked a few weeks ago just after the discovery of the forgery of the name of Sid Elinkman, a State Journal reporter discovered that a warrant had been drawn for Mr. McRoberts and two for Victor Murdock and had never been called. This seems to have been the first that Mr. McRoberts knew of this warrant, for he promptly sent for it, and it was duly mailed to him by the forces in the auditor's office.

KIOWA BANK LOOTED.

Robbers Driven Away After Securing \$600 in Coin.

South McAlester, I. T., Dec. 28.—The safe of the Bank of Kiowa was blown open at three o'clock Sunday morning by a gang of five men. They were in the act of removing the contents of the safe when the door of the building was struck by the explosion and were driven away after a battle in the dark. They secured but \$600 in silver and gold. Bills to the amount of \$1,000 were torn to pieces by the explosion and about \$200 in silver was scattered over the floor. The sound of the explosion awoke several citizens, including Cashier A. Elmer who with other citizens exchanged shots with the robbers. One of the robbers is believed to have been wounded, but they all escaped.

FOUR BROKE JAIL.

Stole Two Horses and Started Southward.

Perry, Ok., Dec. 28.—Four prisoners escaped from the county jail here early today. It is believed that friends smuggled saws in to them. The prisoners are Mack, Harry Johnson and Charles Leeson, under sentence of imprisonment at Lansing, Kan., and Harry Smith, who was awaiting trial. The quartet stole two horses near the edge of town and when last seen were headed south.

BENTON HEARING POSTPONED.

Washington, Dec. 28.—United States Commissioner Taylor, by agreement of counsel, has postponed the hearing in the case of John A. Benton of San Francisco, recently arrested here in connection with the investigation of land frauds from next Wednesday to January 6.

BIG DEATH LIST.

Pneumonia Carries Off 139 Victims in a Week.

SERIOUS PROBLEM CONFRONTS CHICAGO HEALTH BOARD.

HOSPITALS CROWDED.

Patients Are Compelled to Sleep on the Floor.

LESS SERIOUS CASES ARE BEING TURNED AWAY.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—With pneumonia establishing a new death record in Chicago and the county hospital so crowded that patients are sleeping on the floor and less serious cases are being turned away, a serious problem confronts the Chicago health authorities.

The many varieties of weather from which the city has suffered during the last week is blamed not only for many pneumonia deaths, but for the injury of an unusual number of persons hurt by falls on icy sidewalks. During the seven days ending Saturday pneumonia claimed 139 victims.

FOUR \$1,000 BILLS.

Wichita Parents Make Children a Nice Present.

Wichita, Kan., Dec. 28.—Four thousand dollars is the sum of money that S. G. Gribb gave to his four children as a Christmas present.

The three daughters—Mrs. Cash Henderson, Mrs. A. H. Bolte and Mrs. J. F. Knoblauch were each handed an addressed envelope, which was inscribed "From Father and Mother." The envelopes contained a crisp new \$1,000 bill. Mr. Gribb's son John's present was sent to him.

S. G. Gribb, the donor of the gifts, is one of the oldest contractors and builders in Wichita. He has lived here for 30 years. Being anxious to make each of his four children a Christmas present, he conceived the idea of presenting each with a one thousand dollar bill.

MAC ARTHUR SILENT.

The General Refuses to Discuss His War Prediction.

San Francisco, Dec. 28.—General MacArthur returned yesterday from the Hawaiian Islands, where he had been making a military inspection. One of the general's first questions was for news concerning the Japan-Russian controversy and he remarked: "I have not been notified about the transports."

"Is it true, general, that your visit to the islands was cut short by the probability of war in Panama?"

The general considered the question a moment and said: "Well, I am here."

His attention was directed to the recent activity displayed in the transport service and he remarked: "I have not been notified about the transports."

General MacArthur declined to talk about the interview in which he is asserted to have predicted war between Germany and the United States.

N'ROBERTS GOT IT.

Hoch Boomer Who Forgot His Warrant.

One of the Hoch boomers in Jewell county, Kansas, who had announced that he would not be a candidate for governor—was J. W. McRoberts, former probate judge of the county. Mr. McRoberts circulated a warrant asking Mr. Hoch to run for governor.

On page 225 of the journal of the last house of representatives appears the record of a warrant for J. W. McRoberts, assistant document clerk in the house. He was one of the numerous employees of the house because of whom those who were booming Hoch abused Governor Bailey.

Mr. McRoberts, however, says he did not take the place. Instead he simply sent his son to fill it for him. This does not show on the records, however. The warrant register in the state auditor's office is recited "J. W. McRoberts" on January 1, 1903. It seems that Mr. McRoberts went home before the close of the session and therefore did not get his warrant filled. The state auditor says that the warrant register was checked a few weeks ago just after the discovery of the forgery of the name of Sid Elinkman, a State Journal reporter discovered that a warrant had been drawn for Mr. McRoberts and two for Victor Murdock and had never been called. This seems to have been the first that Mr. McRoberts knew of this warrant, for he promptly sent for it, and it was duly mailed to him by the forces in the auditor's office.

HAY DOESN'T GET WELL.

Secretary May Go to Georgia for His Health.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The condition of Secretary Hay remains unchanged. Contrary to the expectation of his physician the secretary's bronchial trouble has not yielded readily to treatment and Mr. Hay probably will leave early in January for Thomasville, Ga., for a visit to Colonel Olive Payne. The mild climate there has helped the secretary before and is hoped to do so again. Unless a decided and unexpected change for the better in Mr. Hay's condition occurs within the next few days Mr. Loomis will officiate at the breakfast on New Year's day to the diplomatic corps at the residence of the secretary and Mrs. Hay. Mr. Loomis also will be present at the president's reception in the same capacity.

Mrs. Hoar's Funeral.

Worcester, Mass., Dec. 28.—The funeral of Mrs. Ruth Ann Hoar, wife of U. S. Senator Hoar, was held from the Church of the Unity today. Rev. Dr. Edward Everett Hale, of Boston, conducted the service. The body will be taken to Concord, Mass., tomorrow for burial.